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Instructions in skeleton drill



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INSTRUCTIONS
IN
SKELETON DRILL,

FOR THE PRACTICE OF

Brigade Movements

BY

COMPANIES AND SINGLE BATTALIONS:

ADAPTED FOR THE USE OF OFFICERS OF INFANTRY.

BY A FIELD OFFICER OF INFANTRY.

“The celerity and accuracy of the officers and troops in manœuvring are so essential in all operations.”—DUKE OF WELLINGTON’S *Orders*, 1811.

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INTRODUCTION.

Library
THE English troops are now so seldom associated, and meet with so few opportunities of working even in brigades, that half the officers in our service find themselves in a new, and therefore somewhat embarrassing position, whenever suddenly called upon to act in conjunction or in manœuvre with other corps.

In the small colonial garrisons, and elsewhere, years may continue to revolve without any possibility being offered, in our reduced military establishment, of assembling regiments for such essential purposes ; and thus many officers of several years' standing in the service are so situated as to be in a fair way of attaining positions of command without ever having had the means of participating in the evolutions of a

brigade, and who therefore have never been enabled to acquire, however desirous they may be, any practical information of movements beyond such as are applicable to the drill of single battalions. Others, in the total absence of the occasional practice in which they formerly may have assisted in brigades, are likely to lose altogether that knowledge which they once had a full opportunity of attaining.

With a view to some remedy of these evils, and in the hope of furnishing some instruction in the rudiments of brigade and line movements generally—to simplify the practice of them, and to provide for all *single* battalions and for young officers the ready means of acquiring these duties, a practical system is here attempted to be explained and arranged by the employment of skeleton lines (but of a construction sufficiently substantial to give the fullest meaning and effect to every evolution), and which system, if not wholly new in the British service, has not perhaps been brought to the present degree of extended utility in it.

Its advantages in supplying the deficiency adverted

to, and in qualifying officers to perform with confidence and alacrity all the field duties of superior ranks, have already stood the test of some trial ; and its benefits, in giving the serjeants and rank and file of a corps additional smartness and cleverness in general manœuvre, have been very satisfactorily demonstrated.

The “ System ” being also in full accordance with the precepts laid down for the guidance of the Officers of the British Army in their “ Regulations for Field Exercise,” is submitted to them without further prefatory recommendations, in the full confidence that the best results will attend its general application.

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INSTRUCTIONS

IN

S K E L E T O N D R I L L.

DETAIL OF THE SYSTEM.

EACH company of infantry, with the assistance of twelve ropes, may represent a battalion of six divisions, as follows :—

The ends of the ropes, having handles, are to be held by soldiers (the instruction being without arms), so that the front and rear rank of each subdivision is marked by four men ; the divisions are marked by eight men, and the six divisions, or battalions, by forty-eight men.

The subdivision ropes may be of a length to represent the space occupied by ten files,—namely, seven paces,—and, adding the flank men of the subdivisions,

each division will have a front of twenty-four files—nearly seventeen paces, and the battalion will have a front equal to 144 files—occupying, with the division-leaders, a space of about 105 paces.

The foregoing dimensions are given as those which have been found most convenient for the purposes in view, but can be increased or diminished at pleasure.

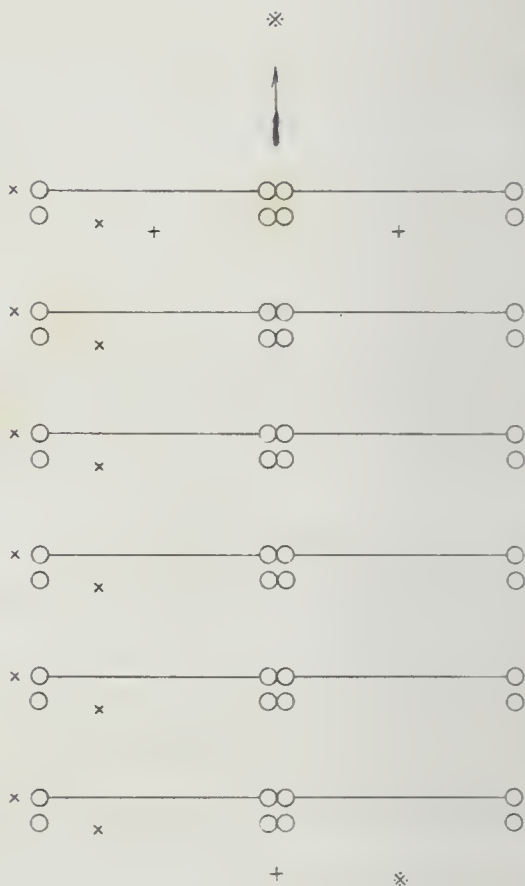
The ropes should be covered with cloth, and the colours of the cloth should vary to distinguish companies—that is, battalions.

Ropes are not essential for the rear ranks; but the latter must retain their positions, and conform at all times to the movements of their front-rank men.

Thus if the captain of each company commands this represented battalion, assisted by its other officers, all mounted, if possible, and the colour-serjeant acts as its serjeant-major, the whole arrangement is completed, with the exception of the leaders and coverers of the six divisions, who are to be selected



*A Battalion formed by 48 Men with ropes
in Column at quarter distance right in Front*



<i>The Commander and other Officers</i>	✕
<i>Leaders and Coverers of Divisions</i>	×
<i>Serg.^t Major and base Markers</i>	+
<i>Flank Men of Divisions with ropes.</i>	○

from the non-commissioned officers and most intelligent men of each company respectively.

Two active men are also to be furnished to act as “base-markers” to each represented battalion, under the direction of the serjeant-major.

The battalion being formed, will therefore be composed as follows, and will assume an appearance similar to that in the annexed plate (1); the whole being, as before intimated, within the easy capabilities of a company of the line of the present establishment, namely :

1 captain as commander of battalion,

1 or 2 subalterns as acting major and acting adjutant,

1 colour-serjeant as acting serjeant-major,

6 serjeants or corporals as leaders of divisions,

6 acting corporals or intelligent privates as coverers of divisions,

48 privates as flank files of subdivisions,

2 active men as “base-markers ;”

Total 63 non-commissioned officers and privates.

A commanding officer of a battalion in this man-

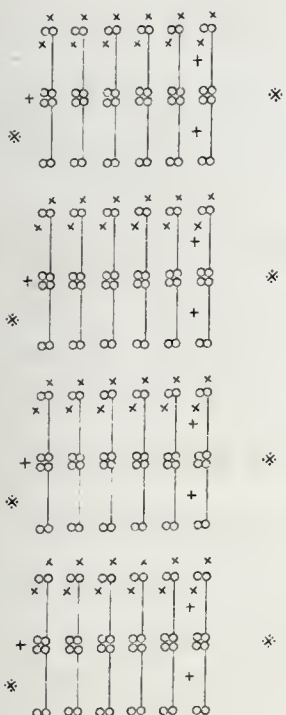
ner is enabled to display as many battalions as there are effective companies of his corps assembled ; and few will be so situated as not to have sufficient officers and men constantly at hand to represent a brigade of *four* battalions : the number required for this purpose being eight officers, and two hundred and fifty-two non-commissioned officers and privates.— (*Vide* Plate 2.)

Formations of sections, and consequently formations of “squares,” are not included in this practice with ropes ; but situations during movements in which such squares would be applicable, can be equally observed and pointed out by the instructor ; and it is to be remembered that, although this system of instruction may be very advantageously used in perfecting officers and soldiers in battalion drill, yet its principal utility here advocated is the attainment it offers of a superior and easy mode of instruction in the more extended movements of brigade, and of even larger bodies of troops, and which attainment is seldom within the possibility of being acquired by any other means.

A Brigade of four Battalions

*Consisting of 192 Men, 6, 48 Leaders and Towers, **,

8 Bass Masters & Sergeant Majors, and 8 Officers,*.*



Total 260

Still the ropes, if so desired, can be divided into sections ; in which case *eight* more men must be added to each division. But a battalion in such case could scarcely be represented by less than two companies of soldiers.

The ropes also have been sometimes used without a rear rank,—in which case the necessity for *additional* men for the flanks of sections may be obviated,—but on the whole, and for the purpose of general practice and utility in giving effect to brigade instruction, the system of formation already detailed and exhibited in Plates I. and II. has been found the most satisfactory.

Complete divisions of light infantry may be formed as the left or sixth division of each rope battalion when there are men enough, and where commanders wish to extend their instruction to the employment of light infantry in covering movements in brigade.

PRACTICAL REMARKS.

One of the principal novelties to be surmounted in the first assembly of troops in brigade for manœuvre is the necessity which exists of a system of giving, as well as of repeating words of command. A little reflection will render it obvious that, unless the cautionary and other commands of the brigadier are *repeated* by the mounted officers of an extended line, it would be impossible, even in the most tranquil state of weather, and under the most favourable circumstances, that such commands could be heard or understood so that any accuracy could attend the execution of the required movements, or that they could be performed with the precision necessary to instruction: but if the cautionary words are repeated by all mounted officers as soon as heard, the executive words being afterwards also given by the commanders of battalions, the movements of the line, however extended it may be, and with its brigadier in any part of it, can be performed with as much celerity and exactness as those of a single regiment.

To imagine that such precision is possible, without this precaution of repeating, would be to suppose every officer officiating as a brigadier to be capable of vocal efforts altogether superhuman.

Although all words of command should be given in short, concise terms, yet they should also loudly and clearly express the nature of the intended movements. Corrections of coverers, of pivots, and markers, should be made with as little noise as possible by the mounted officers who assist the battalion leaders; and, above all, "conversations" on these matters should be avoided in the field.

In a regimental brigade of ropes, it is scarcely to be supposed that more than two mounted officers can be furnished for each made-up battalion, so that it is requisite to regulate accordingly. In the deployment of lines from columns, however long and extended such lines may be, it is not in fact expedient that adjutants should always mark the outer flanks of such lines—for as to accuracy, it is in the first place most difficult to align such adjutants on dismounted base-markers—and it is more than difficult to keep

such adjutants *steady* when so aligned. Neither they nor their horses have, perhaps, had the benefit of the riding-school, and the prescribed resource of "dismounting" is then adopted. But the "dressing" amidst all this is altogether lost by the unsteady adjutant himself, and therefore by those who are required to prolong the line beyond him.

Though such remarks are fully applicable to general practice, yet in the rope-battalions it becomes a matter of necessity to dispense with mounted markers for the flanks of a deployment, or formations by echellon; for if such movement is made on a central division, more mounted officers would be required than could probably be furnished, and, as we have already referred to the difficulty of finding *one*, it is the less necessary that we should expatiate on the general improbability of obtaining *two* per battalion. But in the practice of infantry, this is not to be regretted: their best lines are formed, from deployments and echellons, by the sole use of *infantry*-markers, truly aligned on a good base; and the mounted officers during such movements are of greater use and consequence elsewhere in superin-

tending the movements of their divisions, and in placing the coverers on the exact prolongations.

If the base of a long line be truly placed on a distant object in nature, and such object be known to the mounted officers, there can, in fact, be no reason why a line of any number of battalions should not be accurately taken up and prolonged *ad infinitum* and without the aid of mounted markers.

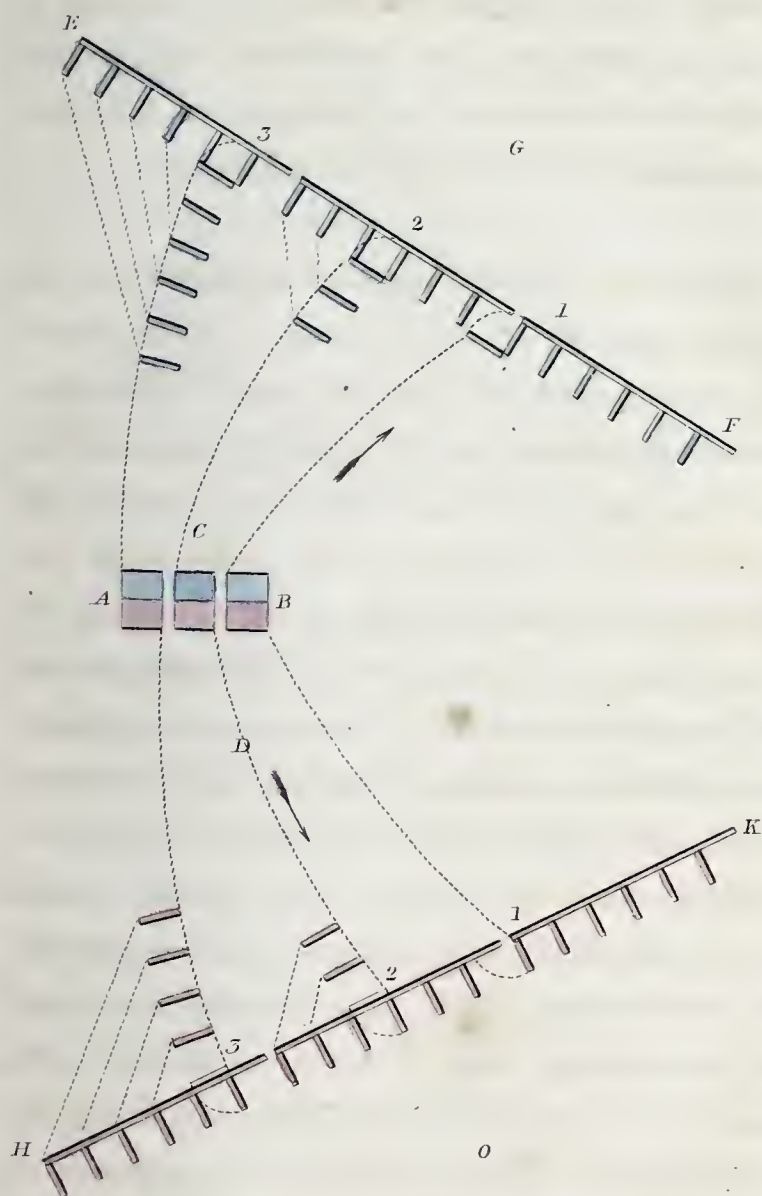
But when columns are required to move from their place of assembly to distant positions in line to the front or rear, the case is different, and adjutants or other mounted markers are indispensable to delineate the intended shape and front of the new formation; and even if the commander of a battalion has but one mounted assistant, he must be spared on such occasion.

In reference to the system of taking up lines to the front and to the rear from an assembly of columns, as it embraces a "principle" which must be constantly borne in mind throughout the field movements of large bodies, and the detail of which "principle"

branches from the common usage and practice of single battalions, it is not out of place to give such subject the elucidation here attempted, as belonging to the system of drill under consideration.

A brigade of three regiments supposed to be assembled at A. B.—facing C. (Plate 3)—is required to take up a distinct line E. F.—facing G. The direction is supposed to be delineated by the brigadier; and the mode of moving to it is regulated by the consideration of the degree of space each battalion would go over in arriving at its place in the new formation. Thus the right battalion moves on its left point, at which its mounted marker is placed in the intended alignment from the general marker at F. This battalion moves therefore to its front, opens to wheeling distance on the march, and its leader marches so as to bring his *reverse flank* on the battalion-marker (1); and when he approaches within wheeling distance of him he wheels to the right, and moves on F.—each division in succession doing the same, till the leader of the rear division of this right battalion is abreast of the mounted marker's horse's head. The centre battalion of the brigade is

1st Movement.



2nd Movement.

in this case supposed to enter the alignment at a *central* point (2), and its adjutant or mounted marker is placed accordingly, being dressed on the adjutant of the right battalion (1) and the general marker at F. This battalion moves similarly to the other, except that when its leading division has arrived at wheeling distance from the rear of the right battalion (and six paces), its commander halts, and seeing that the leading divisions are accurately placed, he directs the remainder to file into the alignment.

The left battalion is supposed to enter the intended position where its head is to rest, and its adjutant is posted at (3) accordingly. Its movements are so made as to place the leading division with its pivot on the horse's head of the marker, and with such division parallel to the front divisions of the column, and perpendicular to the general direction of the line. It requires some judgment on the part of the leaders of the front divisions to bring them up judiciously in this movement, and to wheel to the right at the precise moment. Their point of movement must be an imaginary point, taken of the width of their divisions to the left of their respective mounted markers

at 1, 2, and 3. The dressing of these markers from F. has been already noticed, but the distances at which they are to place themselves must depend on the instructions given at the moment by the brigadier. Thus, when (1) is placed, and the adjutant of the centre battalion is ordered to take half distance (2), there is no difficulty in so doing; but, when the adjutant of the left battalion (3) is told that his battalion will enter the new alignment where its head is to rest, *he* must take half distance also; and being farthest from the “appui,” he will have more time to notice the exactness of his distance from the marker at (2).

The battalions, when their columns are correctly shaped and formed, wheel into line F. E.

The same brigade of three regiments being required to take up a line H. K. to their rear, but facing D., the battalions severally countermarch round their own centre by the inwards wheel of subdivisions. The mode of entry of each column being explained, they are put in movement as before on their markers 1, 2, and 3 respectively; the

proper right battalion moving to where its rear will rest (1), the centre battalion moving on a central point (2), and the proper left battalion moving to where its front or head is to rest (3). The difference to be impressed between this and the former movement is, that, in this case, the battalion columns are led *round* their adjutants or markers, instead of being wheeled *short* of them, and the divisions which file into the alignment *pass* their division coverers, instead of being halted *short* of them.

It must be remembered that the horses' heads of all markers are so placed as to face the new line wheeled up.

Although several modes thus offer of entering alignments by the open column, it is better in a brigade of instruction to cause all such columns to enter at a specified point.

The only rule in such cases applicable to general movement is, that troops should not go over more ground than the movement actually requires, consistently with the principles to be observed, and

with the correctness of the formation. But, if the three markers in these last movements are placed by the brigadier at 1, 2, 3, the intelligent and practised commander of either of the columns would perceive by a glance at *their* formation, distances and fronting, as he approaches them, not only the intention of the movement, but the intention of its mode of execution.

Much advantage will be gained by inquiring officers in pursuing the following and other queries, regarding movements connected with the three battalions assembled at A. B. :—

How ought these columns to proceed, if this line E. F. was required to front C. instead of G., and without inverting the brigade ?

How ought they to proceed if these columns at A. B. were *left in front* in taking up the lines E. F. fronting first G., and then, under the same suppositions, fronting C.?

How should the columns at A. B. proceed if they were directed to take up the line at H. K., fronting O., without inversion of their order in brigade ?

How should they move if, when *left in front* facing C., they were directed to take up the line H. K. fronting D.?

What other means present themselves of taking up these lines with similar accuracy?

How should the battalions at E. F. or at H. K. form themselves into contiguous order at A. B., fronting C. or D., if ordered to execute such movements?

Under all such suppositions, how should the mounted markers or adjutants be placed?

What would be the requisite words of command for battalion commanders under any of these suppositions?

If the line H. K. of three battalions was required to take up the distant position E. F., or *vice versâ*, what is the required mode of proceeding for each battalion?

What are the variety of methods by which such change could be effected consistently with established rule and usage?

The necessity of employing adjutants or mounted officers in the cases last adverted to, being thus fully admitted, it must here be appended to such admission, that their value in this, and all other such instances in the field, wholly depends on the degree of skill with which they take up the distances of their battalions. In this the eye requires much practice and drilling; but each mounted officer will derive considerable assistance in this part of his duty by causing a space equal to the front of his battalion to be marked out previous to the assembly of the brigade for exercise, and by galloping over such space repeatedly, so as to be enabled to decide with some accuracy the number of strides taken by his horse at a gallop within this distance. By these simple means officers will acquire great facility in this essential matter, and will soon find no difficulty in taking up their ground with sufficient exactness whenever called upon to do so.

4

In a general advance in line, which may and perhaps ought to intervene after each change of position or change of front, the commanders of battalions, being generally in the centres of their lines,

should see that a mounted officer is always stationed near the flank, which connects with the “battalion of direction,” for the purpose of watching and of intimating the necessity of giving room to the right or to the left. This is a very nice matter, and requires much judgment; a battalion once swerved off its perpendicular during an advance in line, will seldom recover its perfect squareness or exactness until halted and dressed; but in brigade, if the battalion of direction presses on its neighbouring battalions, or opens from them, the latter must give way or close in. This constantly becomes necessary, for, notwithstanding all precautions, the centre serjeants of the whole line may move on lines which are not *precisely* parallel or perpendicular, and thus the battalions conforming to them may, in spite of the best endeavours, open from each other or press inwards, and therefore occasion the necessity of a slight flank movement.

If the ground to be gained is very trifling, the diagonal march is perhaps the best mode of proceeding; but as in this and all other such proceedings, ground is *lost*, a short run after resuming the

front will be necessary until again in line with the directing battalion.

In the field days which are here added as adapted to the early practice of a rope or other brigade, the columns are supposed to be at quarter distance rather than closed; for it seems to be admitted that the readiness in which troops thus placed are held for every movement, renders it superior as a formation to any other mode of drawing up collected bodies of infantry.

The increase of depth, if an evil, is more than counterbalanced by the advantageous "square," into which columns so arranged can be thrown at a moment's notice. They possess also a flexibility which renders them very preferable in manœuvring, whenever other circumstances do not interpose to shew that they are either impracticable, or, at the moment, pernicious. In the little columns of six divisions which exhibit battalions of ropes, as already described, there would be about five paces difference in the depth of the two descriptions of formations in question.

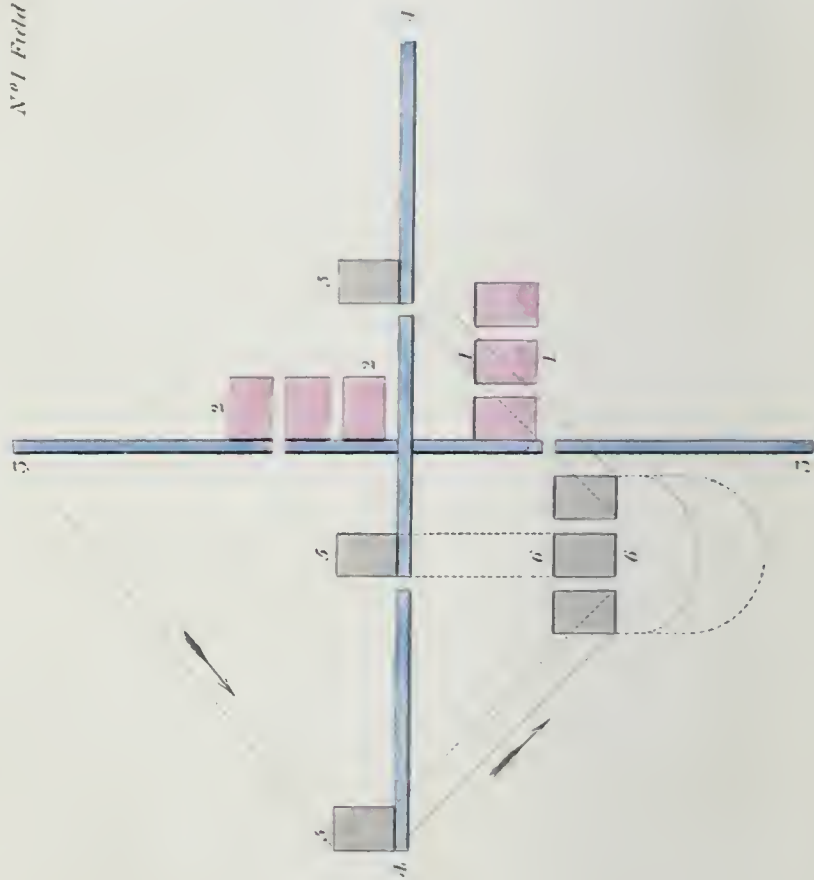
It is to be recommended, when early tuition has attained its end sufficiently, that in brigade practice battalions should, in turn, be employed as “supporting columns,” with orders rapidly to conform to the changes and movements of the lines in their front. The officer acting as brigadier (who, according to the system to which these observations belong, will usually be the commanding officer of a regiment) will thus be best enabled to judge of the capabilities and acquirements of the officer commanding the rope battalions under him.

A particular battalion is sometimes named as the “battalion of direction” during the day. This intimation will do away with the necessity of many words of command from the superior officers, and renders drilling a step nearer the business of actual service; but the brigade (rope or other) should be in a fair and handy state of field discipline before these innovations are attempted, and the “principles” of movement should be well instilled and acquired before the systematic practice of the rudiments is abandoned.

When a battalion is thus named as the battalion of direction, others conform to its changes of front and position—to its advancing and its retiring—and to all its other movements, without awaiting further instructions or further orders. Its mounted officers become responsible for the entire direction of the whole. Its points are the guide for all the adjoining battalions, and whether the direction is accurate or not, or whether the points of formation of this named battalion are true or otherwise, they must continue to be the helm, and must govern (even though it be erroneously for the moment) the whole operation.

The following field days also generally require that the battalions at their close should take up their original ground of formation; the mode of resuming such ground being left to the leaders of battalions themselves. Frequently, indeed, thus, and during the progress of instruction, commanders should be allowed to comply with all general formations and changes of position, without being tied down to any precise mode of gaining the required end. For instance, in taking up distant positions

they should, on receiving the outline of directions which are requisite, be allowed to move in open column, or in column of quarter distance, and to enter their new alignments at whichever point appears to them most advisable ; and, during manœuvre, commanders should also be permitted to use the echelon march of divisions in a change of front, or the flank march, or the open column, according to their own judgments ; bearing in mind that the first is most applicable to the battalions nearest to the “appui ;” the second to those intermediately situated, and the open column to those most remote.



No. 1.

FIELD DAY FOR THREE BATTALIONS.

1. First formation.
2. The columns advance in direct echellon from the right, and wheel to the left, and form line of contiguous columns on the left column.
3. The brigade deploys into general line on the leading division of the centre battalion.
4. The line changes front to the left on the centre battalion, which moves by the echellon of divisions; the flank battalions moving by the flank march of divisions.
5. Regimental columns are formed in rear of the right divisions of each battalion.
6. The columns advance, and are collected in contiguous order on the centre column; the flank columns adopting the diagonal march to the right and left. The brigade being halted, changes front to the rear round the centre battalion.

REQUISITE ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR No. 1. FIELD-DAY FOR THREE BATTALIONS.

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by offi- cers commanding battalions.	PLATE 4. Explanatory Remarks.
The brigade will advance in direct echelon of co- lumn from the right at wheeling intervals!	<div data-bbox="311 417 456 583">} <i>Repeat.</i></div> <div data-bbox="311 1001 519 1115">No. 1. battalion "quick march." No. 2. ditto. No. 3. ditto.</div>	<p>The right column being the leading and directing column, its second mounted officer must see that the leader of its first division has an accurate point on which to move.</p> <p>The other columns are directed by their right flanks. The interval of 23 paces is that which will nearly preserve the required distance between columns of such strength; and is prescribed as essential to enable them to wheel clear of each other, and to preserve their relative position when wheeled into a new perpendicular direction.</p> <p>The assisting mounted officers must now see that the intervals between battalions, both as to depth and width, are preserved during the march.</p>
The echelon will change its direc- tion to the left flank!	<div data-bbox="311 1331 456 1433">} <i>Repeat.</i></div>	<p>The accuracy of this movement wholly depends on the simultaneous wheel of the columns, and therefore the words of command must be immediate. The left column now becomes the directing battalion, and all are guided by the left flanks. If intervals after the wheel are discovered to be in-</p>

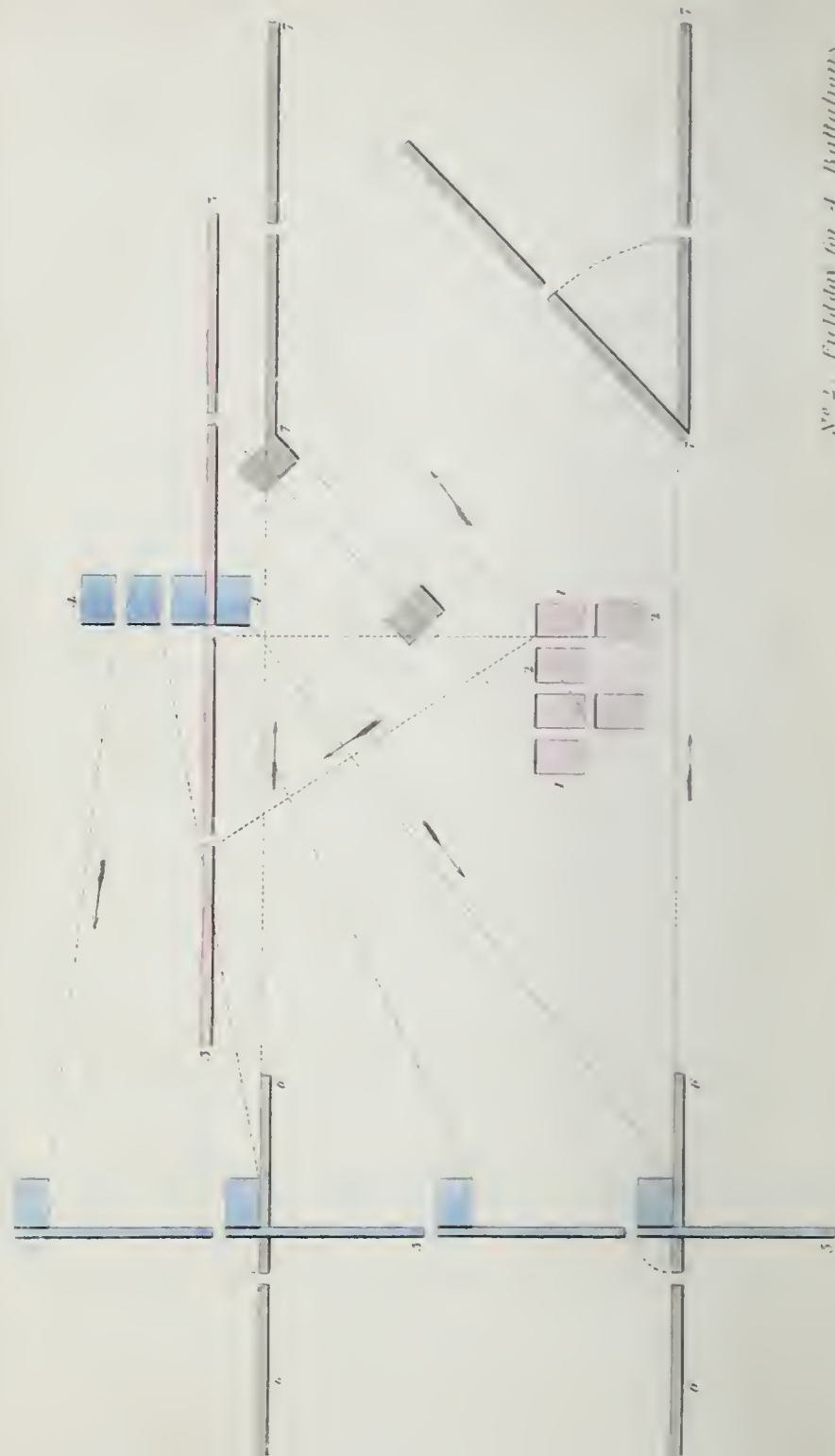
Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by offi- cers commanding battalions.	PLATE 4. Explanatory Remarks.
Form line of co- lumn on the left column!	<div> <div></div> <div><i>Repeat.</i></div> </div>	accurate, they are now to be corrected by the diagonal march, &c.
	No. 3. battalion "halt dress."	On the left, or No. 3. bat- talion, being halted, its base- markers are instantly placed on the flank files of its leading di- vision.
	No. 2. battalion "halt dress."	The base-markers of the other battalions run out and precede the arrival of their columns, which are halted and aligned on the left shoulders of these cor- rected points.
The brigade will deploy into line on the leading di- vision of the cen- tre battalion!	<div> <div></div> <div><i>Repeat.</i></div> </div>	
	No. 1. battalion "deploy on rear division front base, threes right," &c.	The base-markers of the named battalion are posted, as well as those of the named di- vision, and the general align- ment is indicated either by dis- tant points in nature or by mounted officers; and to ensure the accuracy of the line, one or two coverers of the nearest di- visions may be added to the base before the columns proceed to their deployment.
	No. 2. battalion "deploy on lead- ing division threes left."	
	No. 3. battalion "take ground to the left and de-	The officers commanding bat- talions are to watch the progress of the deployment and the con-

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	<div data-bbox="692 112 816 138" data-label="Section-Header">PLATE 4.</div> <div data-bbox="636 166 884 194" data-label="Section-Header">Explanatory Remarks.</div>
<p>The brigade will change front to the left on the right centre division of the centre battalion!</p>	<p>ploy on the march on front division threes left."</p>	<p>duct of each leader of division—the assisting officers are to place themselves near the point <i>d'appui</i>, to correct the coverers of their divisions as they severally run out.</p>
	<p>} <i>Repeat.</i></p>	<p>The degree of change if less than perpendicular must be indicated by the brigadier, by message, or otherwise; and the mode by which the battalions are to effect such change, is to be communicated. Here it is to be supposed that the centre battalion is ordered to move by echelon, and the other by the flank march of their divisions.</p>
	<p>No. 2. battalion "change front to the left by echelon on No. 3. division—left wing right about face," &c.</p> <p>No. 1. battalion "threes right, heads of divisions left wheel," &c.</p>	<p>The serjeant-major of No. 1. battalion will mark six paces from the right flank of the centre battalion, when the latter has effected its change of front, and the assisting officer or acting major will place himself there to see that the coverers, as they severally approach to mark their division distances in open column left in front, are accurately placed.</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	<div data-bbox="671 120 795 153">PLATE 4.</div> <div data-bbox="609 170 857 203">Explanatory Remarks.</div>
<p data-bbox="63 1111 288 1260">The brigade will form columns of regiments in rear of their right divisions !</p>	<p data-bbox="293 261 510 384">No. 3. battalion "threes right, heads of divisions right wheel," &c.</p> <p data-bbox="344 1177 448 1210"><i>Repeat.</i></p> <p data-bbox="293 1466 510 1582">No. 1. battalion "form column at quarter distance in rear of</p>	<p data-bbox="521 261 945 698">The serjeant-major of the left battalion must take similar care that the coverer of his leading division makes the same allowance of 6 paces (the interval between battalions in line) in taking wheeling distance on the left flank of the formed battalion—and the assisting officer or acting major of No. 3. battalion must, in like manner, from hence superintend the accuracy of his coverers.</p> <p data-bbox="521 715 945 946">It is almost needless here to remark, that the divisions of the right battalion in this movement are halted and fronted <i>short</i> of their coverers, but that the divisions of the left battalion pass them.</p> <p data-bbox="521 963 945 1095">When the commanders of these see that their columns are properly placed, they wheel them into line.</p> <p data-bbox="521 1111 945 1442">To prevent the necessity of going over more ground than is absolutely necessary (with reference to the movement to which this leads), the brigadier may direct by messages, that the battalion columns should be formed on other companies rather than those which are here named.</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	<div>PLATE 4.</div> <div>Explanatory Remarks.</div>
<p>The columns will advance and close to contiguous order on the centre column!</p>	<p>the right division threes right."</p> <p>No. 2. battalion ditto.</p> <p>No. 3. battalion ditto.</p> <p>} <i>Repeat.</i></p> <p>No. 1. battalion "advance, quick march" — "left half turn."</p> <p>No. 2. battalion "advance, quick march."</p> <p>No. 3. battalion "advance, quick march" — "right half turn."</p> <p>No. 2. battalion "halt dress."</p> <p>No. 1. battalion "front turn, halt dress."</p> <p>No. 3. battalion "front turn, halt dress."</p>	<p>When the brigadier has placed the centre column at the point he intends for the assembly of the contiguous columns, it is halted and its base-markers are placed—those of the other battalions run out and are aligned in their true covering and distance.</p>
<p>The brigade will change front to the rear round the centre battalion!</p>	<p>} <i>Repeat.</i></p>	<p>The officers commanding the flank battalions give the words "front turn," when they are so placed relatively with the centre battalion as to render such command necessary.</p> <p>The established regulations of the service give the requisite detail for this movement, and it is only required to be remembered that its "principle" is in</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by offi- cers commanding battalions.	PLATE 4. Explanatory Remarks.
		<p>accordance with that of the countermarch of a regiment in line, namely, that the new front is kept clear, and that battalions should, in passing each other, move left arm and left arm along the old front.</p> <p>If the battalions are of uneven strength, the base-markers of that on which the movement is performed (supposing that it may consist of fewer divisions than the others) must be quickly placed so as to give full depth to the strongest battalion of the brigade. This precaution is peculiarly requisite when a brigade is countermarched by the filing of all its divisions on their own ground—or by the inwards wheel of all the subdivisions of the battalion ;—a process which also inverts their order.</p>



No. 2.

FIELD DAY FOR FOUR BATTALIONS.



1. First formation or assembly of columns.
2. Two general columns are formed behind No. 1. and No. 3. battalions.
3. The troops take up a position to the front, facing their present front, in line, entering the intended alignment round their rear or left points.
4. The line breaks into open column right in front, and forms contiguous order of columns at quarter distance on No. 3. battalion.
5. The columns take up a distant position to their front on detached markers, and afterwards deploy into general line.
6. Two lines are formed to the left on the right divisions of No. 2. and No. 4. battalions by echelon of divisions.
7. The lines move in parallel columns to their left flank—halt, and adopt an oblique formation, the left thrown back—the second line conforming in columns.

The whole return by battalions to their original ground of assembly.

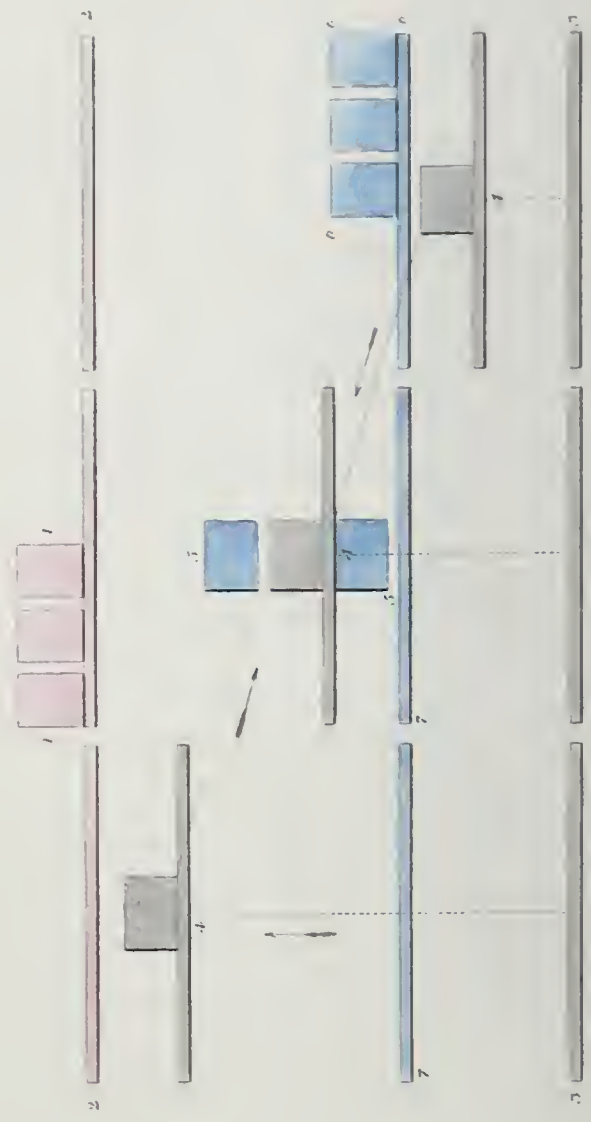
Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by offi- cers commanding battalions.	PLATE 5. Explanatory Remarks.
The brigade will form two columns in mass, in rear of No. 1. and No. 3. battalions!	<div data-bbox="310 277 512 420"> <i>Repeat.</i> </div> <div data-bbox="310 428 512 579"> No. 2. battalion "right about face, quick march — threes right, halt, front dress." </div> <div data-bbox="310 596 512 663"> No. 4. battalion ditto. </div>	<div data-bbox="538 428 953 714"> The mounted officers of No. 2. and No. 4. battalions will place themselves so that they can best see that their columns are <i>covered</i> on the columns on which the formation is made. Their serjeant-major will mark the prescribed interval of 10 paces between columns in mass. </div>
The brigade will take up a line to its front facing the present posi- tion detached left markers!	<div data-bbox="310 747 512 890"> <i>Repeat.</i> </div>	<div data-bbox="538 915 953 1335"> The general direction of the new line is delineated, and the acting adjutants are placed tak- ing their battalion distances from a central point—for in- stance, from the adjutant of No. 2. battalion—being thus fixed with their backs to the approaching columns, they are responsible both for their align- ment from the point d'appui, and for the admeasurement of their battalion fronts. </div> <div data-bbox="538 1344 953 1654"> It will be observed that the preliminary arrangement of the columns may be extended by directing them to face in- wards, and passing through each other to change places— thus avoiding any crossing as they move to their markers— but if the brigadier does not cause them thus to change </div>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE 5. Explanatory Remarks.
Open column right in front!	} <i>Repeat, &c.</i>	<p>places, this must be avoided in the best way by the battalion commanders.—Each battalion, moving round its posted adjutant*, halts when its rear division is abreast of his horse's head; and being thus placed in open column, and the covering and distances corrected, they wheel into line.</p> <p>* See page 10.</p>
The columns will close to quarter distance on the leading division of No. 2. battalion!	} <i>Repeat.</i>	
The brigade will form in contiguous order on No. 3. battalion!	No. 1. battalion "right about face —quick march." No. 2. battalion "close on the rear division," &c. No. 3. battalion "close on the leading division," &c. No. 4. battalion "quick march."	
	} <i>Repeat.</i>	
	No. 1. battalion "threes right, quick march, rear turn, halt, front dress." No. 2. battalion, "threes right," ditto.	<p>The base-markers of No. 3. battalion are immediately placed with their left shoulders touching the flank files of the leading division—the other base-markers move out and precede their</p> <p style="text-align: right;">D</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE 5. Explanatory Remarks.
The columns will take up a distant position to their front, on detached markers!	No. 4. battalion " threes left, quick march, front turn, halt, dress."	columns in taking up their positions. It is the business of the second mounted officer to see that they are aligned on the appui.
	<i>Repeat.</i>	<p>The mounted markers or acting adjutants of each battalion move to the front, and the general direction of the line being pointed out by the brigadier, <i>two</i> are posted on which the others align themselves, facing the approaching columns, and marking where the pivot of each battalion column is to rest. If No. 1. battalion marker is made the appui, the marker of No. 2. battalion takes the distance in line of his right-hand neighbour.—No. 3. that of No. 2.—No. 4. that of No. 3.</p> <p>The rope battalions being generally the same width of front, this creates no difficulty; but it is often otherwise in brigades.</p> <p><i>Two</i> mounted markers should if possible be placed on the base, the dressing of the rest is then much easier. The columns may be moved up to the markers by a message, as soon as the brigadier sees that the adjutants are in the proper direction, and dressed.—The battalion leaders must bring their columns square</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE 5. Explanatory Remarks.
The columns will deploy on their leading divisions!	} <i>Repeat.</i>	up to their markers, using the diagonal march to the right and left as occasion may require. Mounted markers should not quit their stations until the word "eyes front" is given by the brigadier.
The brigade will form two lines to the left on the right divisions of No. 2. and No. 4. battalions, by echelon!	} <i>Repeat.</i>	The named divisions being wheeled into the new direction, and perpendicular to the old line, the movement proceeds in the usual mode of detail, as in battalion.
The lines will move in parallel columns to their left!	} <i>Repeat.</i>	The columns are formed of subdivisions, or of divisions, and move on—the brigadier announcing the appointed "column of direction," which in this case should be the <i>present right</i> column, namely, that composed of No 3. and 4. battalions, its pivot being the right. The second mounted officer of No. 4. battalion will see that the leader of that column has a point on which to move. The second mounted officer of No. 2. battalion will see that the distance between his and the column of direction is

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by offi- cers commanding battalions.	PLATE 5. Explanatory Remarks.
<p>Halt, wheel into line!</p> <p>The front line will change its direction on the right division, left thrown back!</p>	<p>} <i>Repeat.</i></p> <p>} <i>Repeat.</i></p> <p>No. 4. battalion "threes right, divisions right wheel."</p>	<p>preserved, and that its head is kept in line with the directing column.</p> <p>This is performed in the usual manner, the right division of No. 3. battalion wheeling back 4 paces, and the remaining divisions forming line on it by echelon.— Or No. 4. battalion may move into the oblique line by the flank march of divisions.</p> <p>The brigadier will intimate that the second line is to conform to the movement in columns, upon which No. 1. and 2. battalions form columns in rear of their right divisions, and taking ground to their right, are placed in a parallel line to the battalions in front of them; their second mounted officers having first indicated the points and stationed themselves at the spots on which the commanders place their pivots.</p> <p>The column of No. 2. battalion being thus in rear of No. 4. and that of No. 1. being in the rear of the centre of No. 3.</p>
<p>The battalions will resume their original ground of assembly!</p>	<p>} <i>Repeat.</i></p>	<p>See pages 20 and 49.</p>



No. 3.

FIELD DAY FOR THREE BATTALIONS.

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1. First formation.
 2. The columns deploy into line on a central division of the brigade.
 3. General advance in line.
 4. The line retires from the right of divisions by threes in a direct echellon of battalions from the right, and on the march forms regimental columns on the left centre divisions, for the purpose of forming squares.
 5. The columns move into contiguous order on the centre columns of the brigade, which then retires in a direct echellon of columns from the left.

They halt, front and wheel to the left (6), forming line of columns on the left column, and they then deploy (7) on the left division of the brigade.

The battalions may resume their first formation by columns from the right of regiments.

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE 6. Explanatory Remarks.
The columns will deploy on No. — division of No. 2. battalion !	<p data-bbox="324 282 433 391">} <i>Repeat.</i></p> <p data-bbox="324 425 528 509">No. 1. battalion " threes right," &c.</p> <p data-bbox="324 517 528 660">No. 2. battalion " deploy on No. — division, front base, threes outwards."</p> <p data-bbox="324 668 528 710">No. 3. battalion " threes left."</p>	<p data-bbox="549 425 953 525">The arrangements of base points, &c. are made as detailed in page 25.</p> <p data-bbox="549 534 953 744">When no mention is made on the subject, the deployment is to be considered as always intended on a front base, that is, that the line is to be prolonged on the head of the column.</p>
The line will advance. No. 2. battalion will direct !	<p data-bbox="324 769 433 878">} <i>Repeat.</i></p>	<p data-bbox="549 769 953 929">The centre serjeant of each battalion takes post, and the second mounted officer places them, and gives them points on which to move.</p> <p data-bbox="549 937 953 996">The directions in page 16 are to be referred to.</p>
Quick march !	<i>Repeat.</i>	
Halt !	<i>Repeat.</i>	
On the battalion of direction, dress !		<p data-bbox="549 1105 953 1550">The centre serjeants of the battalion of direction (in the rope battalions there will generally be but <i>one</i>) move out and face to their right, and the flank non-commissioned officers, or base-markers, of this battalion move out opposite its extreme right and left; these being covered, the centre serjeants of the other battalions face towards the battalion of direction, and all the flank-markers do the same.</p> <p data-bbox="549 1559 953 1676">When the battalion mounted officers are satisfied that the markers are properly aligned, they order them to face about,</p>

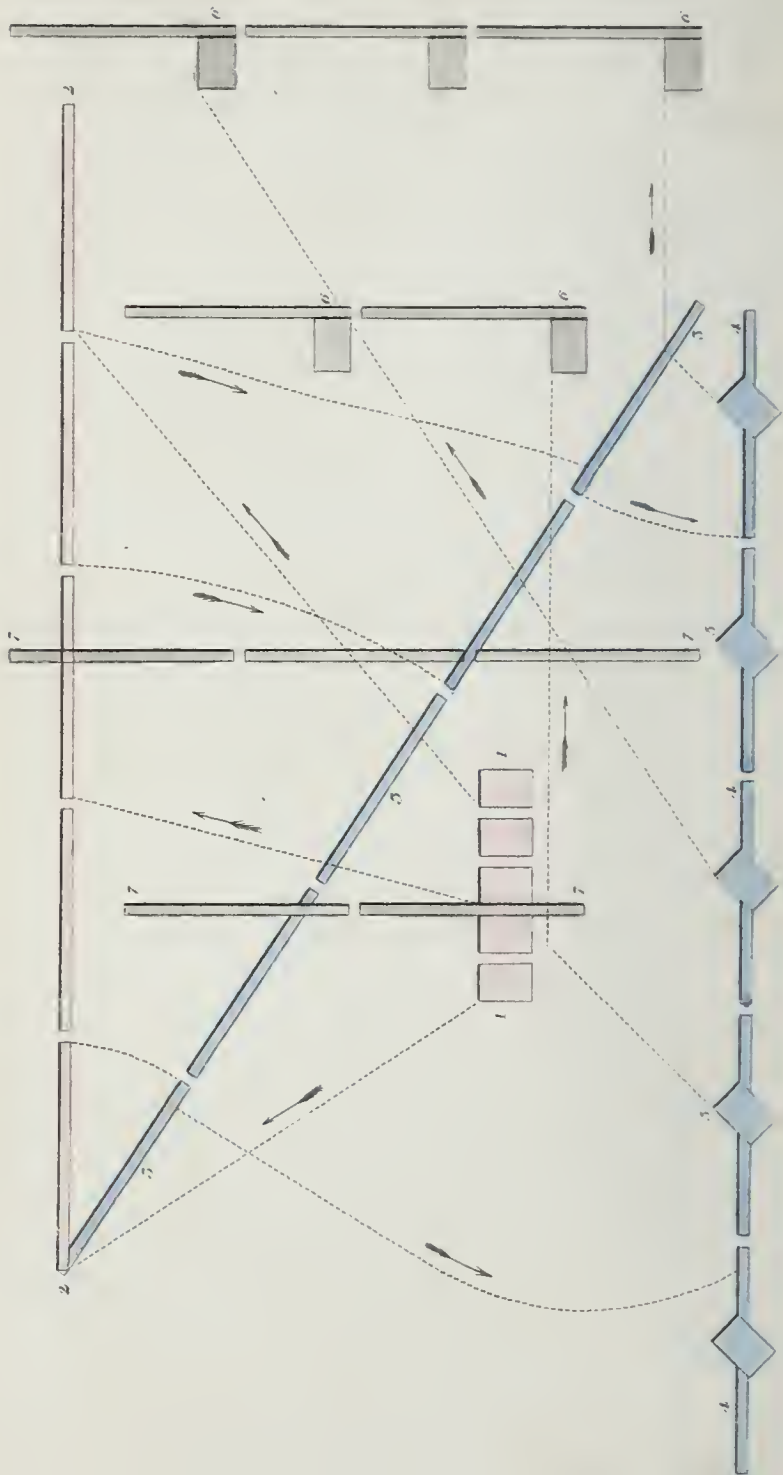
Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE 6. Explanatory Remarks.
The line will retire by battalions from the right of divisions by threes, at — paces interval!	<p data-bbox="319 534 412 567">} <i>Repeat.</i></p> <p data-bbox="303 663 507 920">No. 1. battalion "threes right, divisions right wheel, quick march." No. 2. battalion ditto. No. 3. battalion ditto.</p>	<p data-bbox="526 282 940 475">if on the right of the directing battalions; and the coverers of divisions then move out facing to the centre of each battalion, and the whole line is soon accurately dressed.</p> <p data-bbox="526 668 940 887">The right battalion being the leading one of the echelon, is the battalion of direction, and the leader of No. 1. division is to take a point for the guidance of his true perpendicular movement to the rear.</p>
Battalions will form columns at quarter distance (squares) on their left centre divisions!	<p data-bbox="319 1273 412 1307">} <i>Repeat.</i></p> <p data-bbox="303 1407 507 1643">No. 1. battalion "divisions inwards turn." No. 2. battalion ditto. No. 3. battalion ditto.</p>	<p data-bbox="526 895 940 1206">The second mounted officers move near their first divisions to see that their battalions preserve a corresponding direction to the rear, with that adopted by the leading battalion, and that the heads of divisions dress; that the filing is compact, and the distances exact.</p> <p data-bbox="526 1584 940 1676">In <i>whole</i> battalions the order would be to form "squares" on the left centre divisions.</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	<div>PLATE 6.</div> <div>Explanatory Remarks.</div>
Form contiguous order of columns on the centre column !	<div> <div> <div></div> <div><i>Repeat.</i></div> </div> </div>	<div>The named battalion places its base-markers on the flank files of its leading division facing its pivot.</div>
The columns will retire in direct echelon from the left at — paces intervals !	<div> <div> <div></div> <div><i>Repeat.</i></div> </div> <div> <div>No. 1. battalion "right about face, quick march."</div> <div>No. 3. battalion "right half face, quick march, front turn," &c.</div> </div> </div>	<div>The base-markers precede their columns and align themselves facing as those are faced which belong to the named battalion.</div>
Halt, front !	<div> <div> <div>No. 3. battalion "right about face, quick march."</div> <div>No. 2. battalion ditto.</div> <div>No. 1. battalion ditto.</div> </div> <div><i>Repeat.</i></div> </div>	<div>The whole move by the present right ; the prescribed number of paces are reckoned from the march of one battalion to the moving of the other, and ought to be preserved during the march.</div> <div>The degree of interval must depend on the width of the columns, but in the rope battalions, of the strength prescribed at page 2, it would amount to 23 paces ; 17 being the width of the column, and 6 the interval between battalions. See page 24.</div>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE 6. Explanatory Remarks.
The columns will wheel to their left !	<p data-bbox="319 307 417 349">} <i>Repeat.</i></p> <p data-bbox="308 388 515 446">No. 1. battalion "left wheel."</p> <p data-bbox="308 446 515 505">No. 2. battalion ditto.</p> <p data-bbox="308 505 515 564">No. 3. battalion ditto.</p>	<p data-bbox="533 396 943 530">The battalions are severally halted when square, on the new perpendicular, or quarter circle.</p>
Form line of columns on the left battalion !	<p data-bbox="319 614 448 656">} <i>Repeat.</i></p>	<p data-bbox="533 589 943 774">The base-markers of the left column being placed as already described; in these movements, the other battalions move up and are dressed on the left battalions.</p>
Eyes front !	<p data-bbox="350 808 443 841"><i>Repeat.</i></p>	<p data-bbox="533 808 943 934">All markers fall to the rear, and all mounted officers and others take their proper positions.</p>
The columns will deploy on the rear division of the left battalion !	<p data-bbox="319 984 448 1026">} <i>Repeat.</i></p> <p data-bbox="308 1085 515 1144">No. 1. battalion "threes right."</p> <p data-bbox="308 1160 515 1219">No. 2. battalion "threes right."</p> <p data-bbox="308 1244 515 1396">No. 3. battalion "deploy on left division, front base, threes right."</p>	<p data-bbox="533 1261 943 1673">Markers being placed on the front of the left column; that is, one base-marker on the left, and the marker of the left division of that battalion on the right; the marker of the fifth division being also placed, and the brigadier having seen that the prolongation of these three will place the line in its intended position, the columns are directed to proceed.</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE 6. Explanatory Remarks.
		<p>The leader of the left division of No. 2. battalion must be here careful to halt his division at the same moment with the leader of the right division of No. 3. battalion.</p> <p>The second mounted officers are to station themselves on the left of their battalions, to observe and to correct the coverers of divisions as they severally run out, taking as a base the two right-hand markers of the battalion next to them.</p>





No. 4.

FIELD DAY FOR FIVE BATTALIONS.

1. First formation or place of assembly.
2. The columns take up a line to their front, entering on detached adjutants, which mark their left points.
3. An oblique line is formed, the right thrown back by echelon, by the flank march, or by the open column left in front.
4. A more distant position is taken up, the left thrown back on detached markers, by the flank march and the open column.
5. Oblique columns of regiments are formed on a central division of each, for the purpose of being converted into flanking squares.
6. The columns advance and take up two lines in a new direction, and the front line deploys.
7. The front line retires and passes the column of the second, which then deploys. The front line halts and fronts at a distance of a hundred and fifty yards. The second line retires from the right of divisions by threes, and passing to the rear to the same distance, is halted and fronted. The original ground (1) may from hence be resumed by battalion columns.

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE 7. Explanatory Remarks.
The columns will take up a line to their front, entering on detached left markers!	} <i>Repeat.</i>	<p>The markers are placed on the prolongation desired by the brigadier, each mounted officer marking the width of his own battalion. They are posted as already pointed out, to front the intended formation. Page 10.</p>
	No. 1. battalion "quick march." No. 2. battalion ditto. No. 3. battalion ditto. No. 4. battalion ditto No. 5. battalion ditto.	<p>The columns may take open distance on the march, or remain at quarter distance till wheeled to the right, short of their <i>markers'</i> horses, and when the rear division of each column is abreast of such marker, that division may then halt, and the remainder take open distance then from the rear,—moving on the next mounted markers to their front. When truly placed, and all matters are adjusted connected with the covering and distance of divisions, the columns are wheeled into line.</p> <p>If the intervals between battalions are incorrect in these movements, they should be corrected before the brigade is wheeled into line. The battalions on the flanks of a line may at all times make such corrections without reference to or from the brigadier.</p>
The line will change front on the left battalion, right thrown back!	} <i>Repeat.</i>	<p>The direction of the new line is in the first instance deter-</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by offi- cers commanding battalions.	PLATE 7. Explanatory Remarks.	
The line will take up a distant posi- tion to its rear, left thrown back!	No. 5. battalion “left division 4 paces left back- wards wheel.”	mined on by the brigadier, and the left division is placed on it. Its battalion will then conform by echellon of divisions.	
	Remaining divi- sions, “right about face,” &c. &c.		
	No. 4. battalion “right about face, divisions left shoulders for- ward.”		
	No. 3. battalion “threes left, heads of divisions left wheel,” &c.		
	No. 2. battalion, open column left in front. Advance — lead- ing divisions left shoulders for- ward, &c. &c.		
	No. 1. battalion ditto.	No. 4. battalion is here also supposed to move by echellon of divisions, and No. 3. by the flank march of divisions. No. 2. and 1. by open column, left in front, entering on central points, that is, where the centres are to rest.	
	} <i>Repeat.</i>	No. 1. battalion “threes right,” divisions “right wheel,” &c.	The brigadier will, as usual, communicate to the officers com- manding battalions how they are each to move ; but it is here supposed that the two battalions nearest the “appui” make the change by the flank march of divisions, and that the three other battalions move in open columns, right in front, and en- ter the alignment on detached adjutants, who are posted to mark their central points.
		No. 2. battalion ditto.	

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	<div>PLATE 7.</div> <div>Explanatory Remarks.</div>
<p>The right centre divisions of each battalion will wheel four paces to their right!</p> <p>Form regimental columns at quarter distance on right centre division, right in front!</p>	<p>No. 3. battalion open column, right in front, &c. Advance! &c. Leading divisions left shoulders forward, &c.</p> <p>No. 4. battalion ditto.</p> <p>No. 5. battalion ditto.</p>	<p>The second mounted officer of No. 1. battalion must place his two or three leading coverers on the true prolongation which is intended. The other coverers are then to be corrected by him.</p> <p>The second mounted officer of No. 2. battalion takes two or three of the coverers of No. 1. battalion, and from thence he places those of his battalion, as they severally precede their divisions.</p> <p>The second mounted officer of the other battalions place themselves where the centres of their columns are most likely to rest—their horses facing the intended line, and their battalion wheeling round them. The commander of these battalions halt them when their leading divisions have arrived at wheeling distance from the battalion in front, and cause the rear divisions to file into the alignment.</p> <p>The battalions are wheeled into line as soon as their covering, &c. is seen to be corrected.</p>
	<p><i>Repeat, &c. &c.</i></p>	
	<p><i>Repeat, &c. &c.</i></p>	<p>In actual brigades the formation of squares would of course follow the formations of the columns.</p>

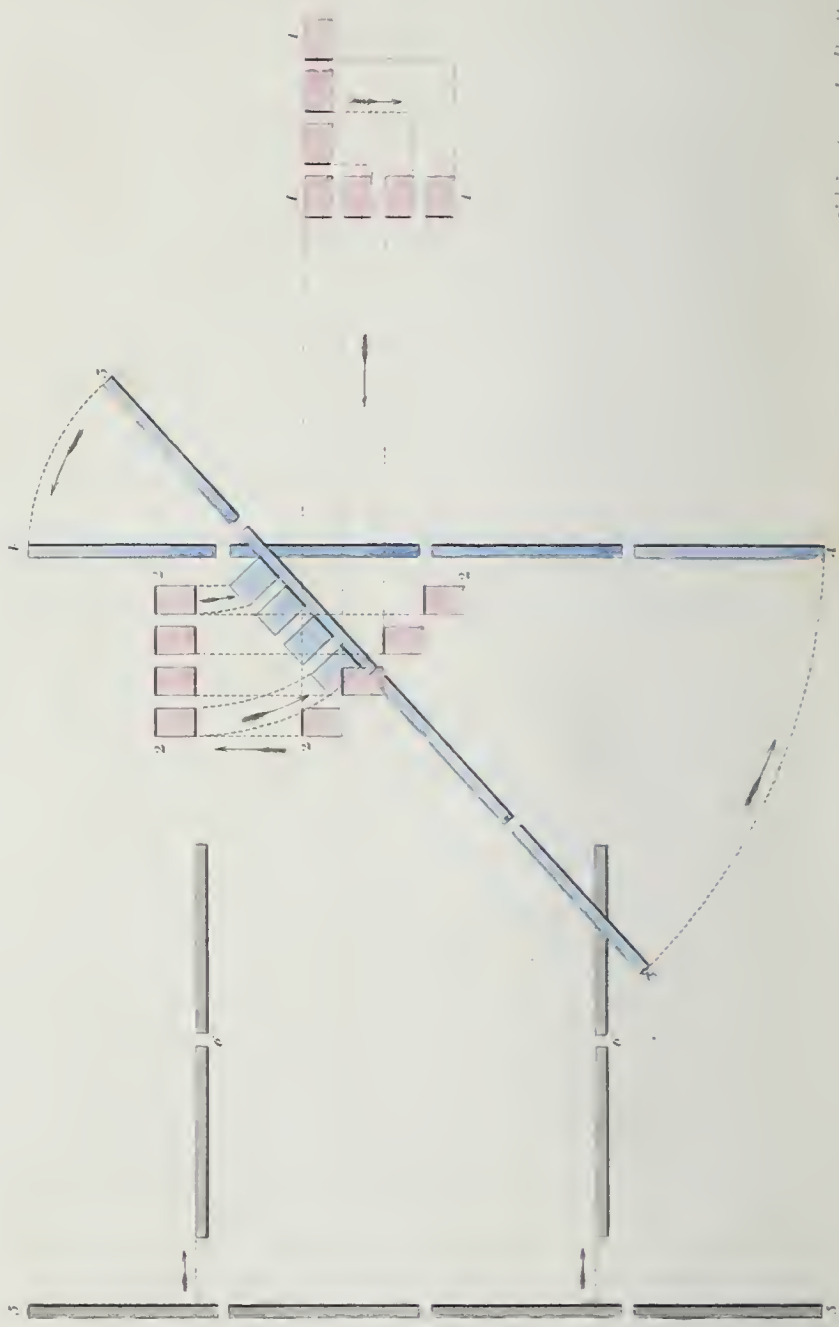
Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE 7. Explanatory Remarks.
The columns will advance and take up a new position in two lines to their right flank !	} <i>Repeat.</i>	<p>The right column is the first placed in the new position, and is therefore the "appui" for the rest.</p> <p>The brigadier having observed that its position is true, the base-markers belonging to it move out ; and it furnishes much aid if <i>two</i> mounted officers place themselves in such case on the flank files of such columns.</p> <p>The second mounted officers of No. 2. and No. 3. battalions move out and place themselves at deploying distance, dressed on the two markers of No. 1. battalion, and the commanders of these battalions move them up, so as to place the pivot of their columns on the horses' heads of these markers respectively.</p> <p>The second mounted officers of Nos. 4. and 5. battalions place themselves in a second line ; the situations adopted by the marker of No. 4. being the guide for the marker of No. 5.</p> <p>Officers in this case must take the deploying distance of the battalions on their right.</p> <p>The proper and relative position of No. 4. column would be in rear of the centre of the space between No. 1. and No. 2.</p> <p>The distance between the lines would be conveyed by the brigadier.</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	<p>PLATE 7.</p> <p>Explanatory Remarks.</p>
<p>The front line will deploy on the leading divisions of battalions!</p>	<p>} <i>Repeat.</i></p>	<p>As the heads of the three columns are supposed to be accurately dressed from the right, it is only necessary that the second mounted officer should see in the deployment that the coverers of No. 1. battalion are aligned on the head of No. 2. column—that those of No. 2. battalion are aligned on the head of No. 3. battalion—and that those of the latter are placed in the exact prolongation of the two right battalions.</p>
<p>The front line will retire!</p>	<p>} <i>Repeat.</i></p> <p>No. 1. battalion “right about face.”</p> <p>No. 2. battalion ditto, &c.</p> <p>No. 3. battalion ditto, &c.</p>	<p>In this case the brigadier would most probably appoint No. 1. or No. 3. battalions to “direct,” as their march would not be broken by the standing columns of the second line—which deploy after the front line has passed them.</p> <p>The front line, on being halted and fronted, is dressed on the battalion of direction.</p>
<p>The second line will retire from the right of divisions!</p>	<p>} <i>Repeat.</i></p> <p>No. 4. battalion “threes right, divisions right wheel,” &c.</p> <p>No. 5. battalion ditto, &c.</p>	<p>A battalion of direction must be appointed for the second line, and the dressing must be preserved to that point.</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by offi- cers commanding battalions.	PLATE 7. Explanatory Remarks.
<p>The brigade will resume its original position of contiguous or- der of columns !</p>	<p><i>Repeat.</i></p>	<p>It appears advantageous that in such case No. 4. battalion should direct, and thus the march would be guided by its right division—the heads of divisions pass through the standing line, the files of the latter falling back to admit them. On arriving at the appointed distance in the rear, the second line halts, fronts, and wheels into line.</p> <p>The second mounted officers of each battalion are placed on the original ground, their horses marking where the pivots of their leading divisions are to rest. They dress upon the officer of the proper right battalion ; but as they face the front of their columns, they look to the left to do this ;—their interval from each other is of course the width of the front of a division and the prescribed interval of six paces.</p> <p>The brigadier having seen them properly aligned, merely gives directions to the battalions to “ move on,” leaving the mode of adopting this formation to the battalion commanders respectively.—See p. 20.</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by offi- cers commanding battalions.	PLATE 7. Explanatory Remarks.
		<p>It will form an amusing and useful study to young officers to refer to the plate in this case, and to propose different modes for the execution of this arrangement by the five bat- talions.</p>





No. 5.

FIELD DAY FOR FOUR BATTALIONS.

1. First formation or assembly of columns in mass, from which the brigade forms line of contiguous columns on the right battalion, and advances in direct echelon of battalion columns from the right.
2. The head of the echelon is changed to the right flank, and the line is formed on the leading column; the inversion of the brigade is recovered by the countermarch of each battalion by ranks or otherwise.
3. A new line is taken up on the left column, which is placed in an oblique position, and the others being dressed upon it, a deployment is made on a division of No. 3. battalion.
4. The line changes its front, right brought forward on a division of No. 3. battalion—Nos. 2. and 4. moving by the flank march of divisions, and No. 1. by the open column left in front.
5. The line takes up a distant position to the rear on detached markers by open columns of regiments right in front, and which enter the alignment on their left pivots.
6. The brigade advances in double columns of divisions from the centre of wings, and on the march forms two lines to the right.

The troops return to their original position by battalions.

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	<div>PLATE 8.</div> <div>Explanatory Remarks.</div>
Form line of contiguous columns on the leading column!	<div> <div>} <i>Repeat.</i></div> <div>No. 2. battalion "threes left," "quick march, front turn, halt, dress."</div> <div>No. 3. battalion ditto.</div> <div>No. 4. battalion ditto.</div> </div>	<div>The base-markers of the right or leading column being placed — the others run out so as to precede their battalions — the second mounted officers dress them from those of the battalions on their right.</div>
The brigade will advance in direct echelon of columns from the right!	<div> <div>} <i>Repeat.</i></div> <div>No. 1. battalion "quick march."</div> <div>No. 2. battalion ditto.</div> <div>No. 3. battalion ditto.</div> </div>	<div>See remarks on a similar movement, page 24.</div>
The head of the echelon will change to the right flank!	<div> <div>} <i>Repeat.</i></div> <div>No. 1. battalion "left shoulders forward."</div> <div>No. 2. battalion ditto.</div> </div>	<div>See page 24.</div> <div>Except that the present movement causes an inversion of the brigade.</div>
Form line of columns on leading column!	<div> <div>} <i>Repeat.</i></div> </div>	<div>See page 25.</div>
The battalion will counter-march by ranks!	<div> <div>} <i>Repeat.</i></div> </div>	<div>The countermarch being effected, a particular column is mentioned as that on which the whole are to dress, the base-markers are then aligned on such column.</div>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE 8. Explanatory Remarks.
Form line of columns on the left column!	<p>} <i>Repeat.</i></p>	<p>The mode of countermarch will be indicated; but that of wheeling round the centre of each battalion by subdivisions will be used by the brigadier if he wishes to keep the same flank in front.</p>
	<p>No. 3. battalion "quick march," "right shoulders forward, halt, dress."</p> <p>No. 2. battalion ditto.</p> <p>No. 1. battalion ditto.</p>	
The brigade will deploy on No. 0. division of No. 3. battalion!	<p>} <i>Repeat.</i></p>	<p>The left column is advanced and placed in an oblique position, by being a little wheeled to the left; its base-markers are there placed on its head; those of the other columns run out and are aligned from the left flank. This movement will be more regularly managed if the left column, before it is advanced, takes a little ground to its left. See page 35, &c.</p>
The line will change front, right brought forward, on No. — division of No. 3. battalion!	<p>} <i>Repeat.</i></p>	
	<p>No. 3. battalion "form line by echelon on No. — division."</p>	<p>The named division is wheeled forward into the proposed direction, and No. 3. battalion there conforms to the directed change of the echelon of divisions.</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE 8. Explanatory Remarks.
The line will take up a distant position to its rear, by open columns right in front, entering on detached left markers!	No. 2. battalion "threes right," heads of division "left wheel," &c.	No. 2. and 4. battalions move by the flank march of divisions.
	No. 4. battalion "threes right," heads of divisions "right wheel."	It will be seen that, in this case, the divisions of No. 2. must halt <i>short</i> of their coverers, and that the divisions of No. 4. must <i>pass</i> them.
	No. 1. battalion "open column left in front," advance "quick march," leading division "left shoulders forward."	See page 10, &c.
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="font-size: 4em; margin-right: 10px;">}</div> <div> <p><i>Repeat.</i></p> </div> </div>	The intended line is here supposed to be nearly parallel to the one to be abandoned.
		The second mounted officers, or acting adjutants, place themselves so as to mark the left of their new lines. and as they face such lines, they look to the left for their distance and dressing.
	No. 1. battalion "open columns right in front," "quick march," leading divisions "left shoulders forward." No. 2. battalion ditto. No. 3. battalion ditto. No. 4. battalion ditto.	They mark the full front of their own battalions, which advance towards them. The head of each column moves so as to wheel round the horse's head of his own marker, and

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by offi- cers commanding battalions.	PLATE 8. Explanatory Remarks.
<p>The brigade will advance in double column of divisions from the centre of wings!</p>	<p><i>Repeat.</i></p> <p>No. 1. battalion " left divisions to the front, re- mainder right shoulders for- ward."</p> <p>No. 3. battalion ditto.</p> <p>No. 2. battalion " right division to the front, remainder left shoulders forward."</p> <p>No. 4. battalion ditto.</p>	<p>halts his column when its rear division is abreast of his marker. The heads of columns having thus wheeled to the left, move upon the marker of the next battalion, and if another mounted officer can be spared, he will in all such movements mark the flank of the line from whence the distances are originally taken, and thus in the present instance serve to direct the movement of No. 1. battalion, after it has wheeled to the left round its adjutant. See page 10.</p> <p>The battalion covering and distances being adjusted, they wheel into line.</p> <p>The two columns being thus in motion, the left battalion of each directs; that is, the divisions of the head of each column dress by their left.</p> <p>The interval of six paces which separates battalions may be closed or not, as directed; but if closed, it is by the right battalions inclining and dressing to their left.</p> <p>The brigadier will also ex-</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE S. Explanatory Remarks.
Form lines to the right flank !	<p data-bbox="356 762 449 803"><i>Repeat.</i></p> <p data-bbox="304 829 522 920">No. 1. battalion "halt, right wheel into line," &c.</p> <p data-bbox="304 920 522 974">No. 3. battalion ditto.</p> <p data-bbox="304 974 522 1149">No. 2. battalion "form line to the reverse flank, leading division left shoulders forward."</p> <p data-bbox="304 1149 522 1206">No. 4. battalion ditto.</p>	<p data-bbox="542 270 957 527">plain which of the two double columns is to be the directing column for the other. It is obvious that for the mere accuracy of movement, the left column would more conveniently guide the march, its pivot being on that flank.</p> <p data-bbox="542 527 957 724">A mounted officer must then be appointed of No. 2. battalion, to preserve the distance and dressing of the right column during the advance from the column of direction.</p>
The battalions will resume their original ground of formation in a column in mass, in rear of No. 1. battalion at quarter distance.	<p data-bbox="346 1323 439 1364"><i>Repeat.</i></p> <p data-bbox="304 1569 522 1654">No. 1. battalion "pass from the right along the</p>	<p data-bbox="532 829 957 1088">If the intervals between battalions have been closed, they are now to be regained. The second mounted officers of No. 2. and 4. battalions are to see that their division covers take up the true prolongation of lines on No. 1. and No. 3.</p> <p data-bbox="532 1216 957 1542">No. 1. battalion must precede the others in taking up its original ground, and amongst the various modes which offer for placing this battalion, that which is described by the annexed words of command will perhaps appear as applicable as any other.</p>

Words of command to be given by the brigadier.	Words of command to be given by officers commanding battalions.	PLATE 8. Explanatory Remarks.
	<p>rear in open column of divisions, three left, left wheel," &c.</p> <p>"Left half turn," "front turn," &c. &c.</p>	<p>On the right division becoming clear of the left of its battalion, the column may close to quarter distance, and when the front of this column arrives at the ground where its rear should rest, it may counter-march by the wheel of subdivisions round its centre.</p> <p>The other battalions may conform in such a manner as may be most suitable to their commanders; the serjeant-majors marking the ten paces which separate regimental columns in a general column in mass.</p>

MAXIMS FOR MOUNTED OFFICERS IN BRIGADE.

Be particular in the selection of the officers who lead your column, as much of your accuracy depends on *his*.

Do not absorb yourself so much in the result of the movement in which you are engaged as to neglect the manner in which it is done ; keep your battalion at all times compact ; the divisions parallel and at their true distance ; and, under every circumstance, be always prepared to “form square.”

Prefer a steady horse, though he be somewhat slow and ugly, to a handsome fiery steed which will not approach your line. Insist on the advantage of this precept amongst those who aid you on horseback. An officer can spare none of his attention for his horse in the field : it is all demanded in the superintendence of his men, and in his various duties.

Always take your column *round* your detached

marker's horse's head if he is posted facing from you, and wheel *short* of him if he is posted facing towards you; and remember that he already fronts the line you are about to take up.

The mounted marker's horse's head is always the point on which to march, and never his tail.

In taking up points, sit upright and steady on your horse. The necessity of this you will soon find out when you have to align yourself on gentlemen who disregard this rule.

In dressing markers or coverers, always take a base of at least two points on which to align the others.

Be particular so to place yourself and your horse when dressing markers, as not to obscure the direct and clear view of other mounted officers employed in the same duty, or of the markers themselves.

Remember, in deployments from contiguous columns, that your front division halts and fronts at the

same instant with the rear division of your neighbouring battalions, and *vice versa*.

Do not place yourself so near your line or column as to prevent the whole of your battalion from hearing all your words of command.

Let the accuracy of lines and of coverers be the business of the second and third mounted officers, and the movement itself and general method of it be the more immediate business of the commander.

Consider what has been done when your brigade field day is over, and how you would have acted in them had your columns been *left in front*.

CONCLUSION.

Troops should be constantly in the habit, on their field days, of acting on suppositions; and, unless they are still employed in the very rudiments of exercise, their formations should be made in opposition to

ideal attacks, and a particular object thus held in view by the commander to give the semblance of some necessity for each evolution.

In the simple system of the practice of tactics here offered, it has been already suggested, that as progressive improvement is observed, a latitude of action should be given to those leaders of battalions who display increasing intelligence.

The commander will see, at the close of each operation, whether the movements which have been chosen by them are judicious—whether they require remark or amendment, and in this manner will such leaders imbibe their best lessons in the best way. When officers are thus allowed in brigade to place their battalions in certain indicated positions by such means as they themselves prefer, the commander should in his superintendence point out any defects in the choice which has been made—giving his reasons to those under instruction why *such* a movement was unnecessary—why *such* a mode of formation under the existing or supposed circumstances was erroneous, explaining how its defects might be

remedied and the method of its performance improved. This is the very essence of instruction; and fortunate is the young officer who may meet with those who are at once capable and willing to extend it.

That the most simple movements are the best, is most obvious; and that such should be preferred which are most applicable to the real business of the field—perhaps exclusively used in these theories—seems nearly as unquestionable, and the larger the body, the more applicable still are such admissions: but to attain a proficiency in the act of handling troops without reference to number—to be perfectly at home in the tactical arrangement and disposition of masses—to be enabled readily to disentangle them from inversions or complexity, or extricate them from confusion—to place columns without embarrassment or hesitation in any immediately required lines or positions, are attainments which may be ranked amongst some of the greatest ends of our profession, and are assuredly therefore well worth the study, the inquiry, and the practice such important accomplishments demand.

As, however, in other sciences, difficult problems are sometimes studied for the elucidation of simple ends, so may the early and occasional use of military formations, of a more intricate kind than those applicable to a field of battle, tend to excite officers to a degree of reflection and research in these matters which will serve finally to increase and establish in them that confidence in the management of troops under arms which is of such paramount consequence in every part of their professional employment and services. But, at the least, officers under judicious tuition are by these means at once possessed of the opportunities of becoming qualified for ranks immediately superior to those which they at present hold, and to which all aspire with a pleasure and avidity generally commensurate with the innate assurance of being enabled to fill such ranks efficiently ; and in the chances of war, in our uncertain career, do not sudden emergencies constantly occur by which all are as suddenly called upon to fill superior positions ?

How many subalterns are there in our army who never command companies, or captains and majors

who never command even regimental parades? We well know that in spite of wishes and even injunctions on this head, there are difficulties which interpose in the ordinary course of things, and prevent any thing like the habitual practice of duties of superior ranks. But can it be expected that officers will at once become gifted with, and possessed of, the essential qualifications for these commands without any previous experience or tuition in them?

Is not the success—is not the character—and are not the lives of hundreds, often dependant on the immediate readiness and prompt skill of officers under the sudden emergencies just referred to?—and may not all be lost and dishonoured by the want of these qualifications?

But let it not be supposed that damage or injury will arise to the due regularity of the ordinary drill of a battalion by the occasional introduction of the range of instruction which is here advocated.

Neither officers nor men who are not thoroughly acquainted with all parts and portions of such pre-

paratory drill should be allowed to embark in more expansive theories; but an examination of this system will shew, and the practice of it will more completely evince, that an additional intelligence, as valuable in the smaller details as in the larger, is infused throughout all who are competent to partake in it, and that an interest will be excited in such employments highly valuable, and which, under ordinary circumstances, it is not always so easy to awaken and to perpetuate.

This brigade practice with ropes has the merit of more immediately demanding the constant attention of all. There are no idlers in the ranks—the meanest individual employed has at least the responsibility of a flank file of a division or subdivision on his shoulders. The smarter young soldiers are on the “*qui vive*” to recommend themselves as corporals; the corporals as serjeants; officers as adjutants and majors; captains as lieutenant-colonels; and, lastly, lieutenant-colonels are acting as brigadiers. There are none in fact whose faculties are not thus in a constant superiority of demand, and whose capabilities have not an increased field for display and exercise.

In summing up the advantages of this system, by which the most ready means are offered (of which one service, generally speaking, is now capable) to enlarge professional views—to promote professional knowledge—and to improve tactical acquirements, let not the highly momentous military recommendation which follows be for a moment lost sight of—namely, that the whole is attainable without any expense to the public, or indeed much to individuals; the requisite equipment of ropes not being likely to cost more than two pounds sterling per company; and this includes the whole pecuniary difficulty of the matter.

FINIS.

